Conversion of compressed Natural Gas as a substitute for diesel

189. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Re port of expert committee appointed by the ONGC for converting compres sed natural gas a substitute for diesel was submitted to Government long back;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken thereon so far;

(c) whether it is also a fact that utilisation of compressed natural gas in the transport section has already been made possible in many countries and the World Bank has also favoured the use thereof in India; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): Yes, Sir. The ONGC has submitted a report on the use of compressed natural gas (CNG) in the transport sector.

(b) On the basis of examination of the report submitted by ONGC, tech-no-economic feasibility of introducing CNG in the transport sector was ex amined with reference to specific lo cations by a Steering Group set up under the Chairmanship of IBP Co. Ltd. Those specific locations/areas are Tripura. Assam, Delhi, Bombay and Gujarat. The Steering Group has furnished its report recently. Simultaneously the questions of identification of suitable conversion kits, compressors and fuelling arrangements-etc. are also beging addressed.

(c) Yes, Sir. CNG is being used as a fuel in the transport sector in seve ral countries. There is no specific World Bank recommendation for use of CNG in India.

(d) As mentioned in reply to part (b) above.

Action against LPG dealers for compelling customers to purchase hot plants

134. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have already issued any instructions to the effect that LPG distributors who compel people, either directly or indirectly to buy hot plates from them are liable to face strict action; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) The customers are at liberty to purchase hot plate from any source provided it bears the ISI mark. The distributors have standing instructions not to insist on purchase of hot plate from them and are required to display a notice in their showrooms that it is not obligatory for a customer to Purchase hot plate from the distributor releasing the connection. The Mar-keting Discipline Guidelines, inter alia, provide for penal action against those distributors who indulge in such malpractices.

Tikku Committee report

191. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tikku Committee set up by Government for performing a comprehensive cadre review has submitted its report; and

(b) if so. what are the salient features thereof and what is the reaction of the Special Officers' Association of